

Ex-Officer in Hotel Room Bugging Sentenced to 2 Years Probation

By Paul Valentine

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Retired Washington police Insp. Joseph W. Shimon was placed on two years probation in District Court yesterday after pleading guilty to using illegally an electronic bugging device in a lawyer's hotel room here four years ago.

"It is hypocritical, immoral and unjust for the government to prosecute its citizens for conduct its own investigative agencies engage in," snorted Shimon's attorney, C. William Tayler.

He was referring to Solicitor General Thurgood Marshall's recent admission before the Supreme Court that FBI agents had bugged talks between convicted income tax evader Fred B. Black Jr. and his lawyer.

Shimon pleaded guilty last month to a charge of "transmitting radio signals without a license" in the bugging of San Francisco lawyer Malcolm T. Dungan's Mayflower Hotel room during March and April, 1962. He was representing the El Paso Natural Gas Co. in litigation here before the Federal Power Commission.

"I think I can safely predict that no FBI agent will ever be prosecuted" for not having a license, said Tayler yesterday as Judge William B. Bryant imposed the probationary term.

Shimon also pleaded guilty

to attempting to induce private detective Wayne G. Barber to lie to a grand jury about the Mayflower bugging case. His probationary term will apply to this offense as well.

The crimes carry a combined possible maximum penalty of two years imprisonment and \$11,000 in fines.

Shimon was originally scheduled for trial on the more serious charge of conspiring to induce Barber to lie about ownership of the bugging device but decided to plead guilty to the lesser offenses.

Dungan discovered the cavedropping device under a coffee table in his hotel suite where he had been meeting privately with his clients. El Paso was competing at the time for a million dollar pipeline franchise to Southern California.

Other sentences in District Court yesterday:

Robert D. Williams, 19, listed at N. st. ne., indeterminate sentence under the Youth Corrections Act for attempted housebreaking, petty theft and unauthorized use of a Chief Judge Matthew F. McGowan.

Fred J. Ford, 27, listed at 1001 st. ne., 4 to 12 years for assault with a dangerous weapon, carrying a dangerous weapon.

George T. C. Lohr, 30, listed at Quincy st. nw., 10 years for robbery and assault with a dangerous weapon. Judge Howard P. Weir.

Theodore M. Corbin, 30, listed at 1309 Corbin st. ne., 10 years for carrying a dangerous weapon. Judge Howard P. Weir.

Max Taylor, 30, listed at 1309 Corbin st. ne., 10 years for carrying a dangerous weapon. Judge Howard P. Weir.

st. nw., one to four years housebreaking. Judge Curran.

John H. Nicks Jr., 26, listed at 234 Oakwood st. se., 6 to 20 months for unlawful possession of a stolen check. Judge Curran.

Thomas M. Harler, 37, listed at 2410 Nichols ave. se., concurrent sentences of two to six years for assault with a dangerous weapon and one year for carrying a dangerous weapon. Judge Howard P. Weir.

Doris L. Washington, 26, listed at 2820 6th st. ne., one to three years suspended on five years probation for forgery. Judge Leonard P. Weir.

Arthur G. Wright, 24, listed at Irving st. nw., two to six years for robbery. Judge Howard P. Weir.

Charles Zarkin, 37, listed at Connecticut ave. nw., 10 years suspended on the basis for operating a lottery. Judge Howard P. Weir.

Jean E. Buffalo, 36, listed at 56th st. ne., 10 years suspended on three years probation for passing a forged check.

Ferdinand W. attempted robbery. 522 4th st. ne., attempted robbery.

Joseph W. 1733 B st. ne., narcotics.

Randolph, 30, listed at 1309 Corbin st. ne., 10 years for carrying a dangerous weapon. Judge Howard P. Weir.

Acting, 30, listed at 1309 Corbin st. ne., 10 years for carrying a dangerous weapon. Judge Howard P. Weir.